Shri Rajiv Gandhi during the past four years and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of donations made to any other body/voluntary institutions during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Profit/loss of Air India

1480. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India which was a profit making enterprises, having made a profit of as much as Rs. 600 crores in 1992-93 has now been making loss of about Rs. 12 crore per annum; and

(b) if so, the comparative profit/loss figures for each year since 1992-93 to 1994-95 and the likely position for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Details of profits earned by Air India during the years 1992-93 to 1994-95 are as under:—

Year	Amount of Profit
1992-93	Rs. 333.14 crores
1993-94	Rs. 201.90 crores
1994-95	Rs. 40.80 crores

The company, however, has incurred a loss of Rs. 69.51 crores (provisional) during the period April to September, 1995.

संयुक्त ऊर्जा क्षेत्र का बनाया जाना

1481. **श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी:** क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार, राजस्थान, गुजरात, मध्य प्रदेश और हरियाणा राज्यों का एक संयुक्त ऊर्जा क्षेत्र बनाने पर विचार कर रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रयोजनार्थ किन-किन मुद्दों पर विचार किया जा रहा है और इस सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती उर्मिला चिमनभाई पटेल): (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं। ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव इस समय सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है।

Non-Availability of Natural Gas to Gas based power projects in Assam

1482. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-availability of natural gas to its gas-based power projects, production of power has been severely affected in Assam; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take up this matter with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to sort out the differences if any, so that the power shortage in the State can be minimized at the earliest possible time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) No intimation has been received regarding non-availability of natural gas to gas based power projects in Assam.

(b) Does not arise.

Liberalisation of import on consumer goods

1483. SHRI MOOL CHAND MEENA:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to liberalise import of consumer goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its likely impact on local industries engaged in production of such goods, outflow of foreign currency and prices of these items in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) to (c) Review of Export and Import Policy is an ongoing process and while making changes in it, all relevant aspects, including impact on local consumer goods industries are always kept in view.

Shortage of Funds in Film Industry

1484. SHRI MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the film industry is facing a severe shortage of funds;

(b) whether it is a fact that nationalised banks have not come forward to extend working capital to the cinema and film sector; and

(c) what steps do Government propose to take to assist the film industry through adequate financing and loans at reasonable rate of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting which is administratively concerned with the matters relating to the film industry, no complaint/ representation has been received in this regard in the recent past.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that there are no restrictions on grant of advances by banks to film industry and some of the commercial banks have, in fact, sanctioned advances for productions of films. Hoever, in view of the severe competing demands of greater priority on the resources of banks due to growth in agricultural and industrial productions and exports, etc., it may not be possible for banks to extend credit to film industry beyond a limited extent. Wherever feasible banks are expected to finance the film industry depending on their own liquidity position, viability of the projects, income generation cash flow and other relevant factors to ensure that the project is commercially viable. However, existence of high risk factors and considerable uncertainty in the marketability of the end- products and extremely speculative nature of the film industry prevent involvement of the commercial banks in the financing of the film industry in a big way.

(c) The National Film and Development Corporation Ltd. (NFDC), a public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting already provides loans for production of low budget films based on good and socially relevant themes.

Threat to Termination of Membership of UP Exporters' Association

1485. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item appeared in Hindi daily "Amar Ujala' dated 24.8.95 about alleged threat from Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi to Uttar Pradesh Exporters Association, Moradabad for termination of their membership;

(b) whether Government are aware that UP Exporters' Association, Moradabad had sent complaints to Government about alleged high handed action of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts;

(c) whether the threat of termination of the membership to the above Association is due to the complaint made against Export Promotion Council; and

(d) if so, whether Government have made any enquiry into the matter and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Uttar Pradesh Exporters' Association, Moradabad is not enrolled as a member of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts. Hence, the question of termination of the membership to the above Association does not arise.